



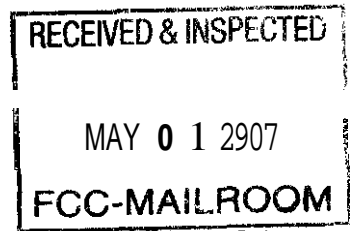
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Louisiana Public Service Commission

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April 25, 2007

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Karen Majcher
Vice President, High Cost
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Universal Service Administrative Company
444 Hoes Lane, RRC 4A1060
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45
Sprint Nextel Corporation— 47 C.F.R. §§54.313 & 54.314

Dear Ms. Majcher and Dortch:

The Louisiana Public Service Commission ("LPSC") has amended and consolidated Sprint Nextel Corporation's ("Sprint Nextel") designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") in ~~the~~ State of Louisiana. The LPSC's Order amending and consolidating Sprint Nextel's ETC designation is enclosed as Exhibit "A".

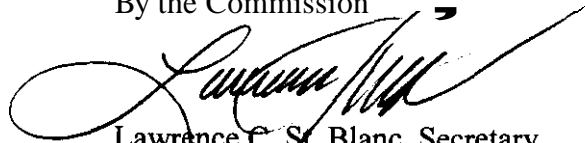
This letter is the LPSC's certification to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and Universal Service Administrative Company ("USCA") that all federal high-cost universal service support provided to Sprint Nextel in Louisiana will be used only for its intended purposes under Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("Act").

Sprint Nextel has certified to the LPSC that all federal high-cost universal service support received by Sprint Nextel in Louisiana will be used pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. Accordingly, LPSC hereby certifies that all federal high-cost universal service support received by Sprint Nextel will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and

services for which the support is intended. This letter serves as a supplemental certification to the annual certification previously filed by the LPSC pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313 and 54.314. This supplemental certification is to ensure that Sprint Nextel is eligible to receive high-cost universal service support effective as **of** the date of the enclosed Order.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this certification, please contact me at your convenience.

By the Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence C. St. Blanc", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Lawrence C. St. Blanc, Secretary
Exec tive Secretary

Enclosure
LCSt.B:bmf
cc: Sprint Nextel Corporation

LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ORDER NO. U-29954

SPRINTNEXTEL CORPORATION, EX PARTE

Docket No. U-29954 In Re: Application of Sprint Nextel Corporation to Amend and Consolidate Its Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.

(Decided at the March 21, 2007 Business and Executive Session.)
(Amends and Consolidates Order U-27509 and Order U-27289)

Nature of the Case

On January 31, 2007, Sprint Nextel Corporation ("Sprint Nextel") filed an application to amend and consolidate its existing designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC"). This Commission has previously designated Sprint as an ETC for non-rural areas in Order No. U-27509¹, and Nextel Partners as an ETC in rural areas in Order No. U-27289². Since the time of the designation, Sprint and Nextel have merged and as a result, Sprint and Nextel Partners are both subsidiaries and affiliates of Sprint Nextel Corporation. Additionally, the parties have noted that in Sprint's original non-rural application, it only sought ETC status in the BellSouth Wire centers in which it provided service. By way of the current filing, Sprint Nextel seeks to consolidate the existing ETC designations under the name of the parent company, Sprint Nextel, and to expand the non-rural designation to cover the entirety of the BellSouth wire centers for which Sprint was designated.

By way of the current filing, Sprint Nextel reiterates the commitments made by both Sprint and Nextel Partners in their original designations. Additionally, the Company re-confirms its compliance with the requirements of 47 USC § 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.201. A timely intervention to Sprint Nextel's application was filed by the Small Company Committee of the Louisiana Telecommunications Association ("SCC"). As stated in the filing, the SCC "does not oppose the Application of Sprint Nextel" and "is intervening as an Interested Party to monitor the docket" only. Thus, there is no opposition to the application as filed, and by agreement of the parties, this matter has proceeded on a Staff level.

Jurisdiction and Applicable Law

The Commission exercises jurisdiction over public utilities in Louisiana pursuant to the Louisiana Constitution Article IV, Section 21(B), which states:

The commission shall regulate all common carriers and public utilities and have such other regulatory authority as provided by law. It shall adopt and enforce reasonable rules, regulations and procedures necessary for the discharge of its duties, and shall have other powers and perform other duties as provide by law.

Pursuant to the above authority, the Commission adopted the Regulations for Competition in the Local Telecommunications Market, as most recently amended in Appendix B to the General Order dated July 24, 2002. As defined therein in Section 101,

(6) Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) - a mobile service that is: (a)(1) provided for profit, i.e., with the intent of receiving compensation or monetary gain; (2) an interconnected service; and (3)

¹ The actual entities designated as an ETC in Commission Order U-27509 were Sprint Spectrum, L.P., SprintCom, Inc. and WirelessCo, L.P., d/b/a Sprint PCS.

² The actual entity designated as an ETC in Commission Order U-27289 was NPCR, Inc. d/b/a Nextel Partners.

available to the public, or to ~~such classes~~ of eligible ~~users~~ as to be effectively available to a substantial ~~portion~~ of the public; or (b) the functional equivalent of such a mobile service described in paragraph (a) of this definition. 47 CFR § 20.3, as amended. CMRS includes "Radio Common Carriers: as that term is defined and used in La. R.S. § 45:1500 *et seq.*

(7) Commercial Mobile Radio Service Provider - any person or ~~entity~~ engaged in the provision of a service that ~~is~~ a commercial mobile radio service. CMRS provider includes "Radio Common Carriers: as that term is defined and used in La. R.S. § 45:1500 *et seq.*

The Commission is given broad power to regulate telephone utilities and may adopt all reasonable and just rules, regulations, and orders affecting or connected with the service or operation of such business.³ As stated previously, 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2) grants the power to the state commissions to designate a common carrier that meets the requirements of 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) as an ETC for a service as specified by the commission.

The requirements of 47 USC § 214(e) are as follows:

(1) Eligible telecommunications carriers - A common carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier under paragraph (2), (3), or (6) shall be eligible to receive universal service support in accordance with section 254 of this title and shall, throughout the service area for which the designation is received—

(A) offer the services that are supported by federal universal service support mechanisms under section 254(c) of this title, either using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services (including the services offered by another eligible telecommunications carrier); and

(B) advertise the availability of such services and the charges there for using media of general distribution.

(2) Designation of eligible telecommunications carriers - A State commission shall upon its own motion or upon request designate a common carrier that meets the requirements of paragraph (1) as an eligible telecommunications carrier for a service area designated by the State commission. Upon request and consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, the State commission may, in the case of an area served by a rural telephone company, and shall, in the case of all other areas, designate more than one common carrier as an eligible telecommunications carrier for a service area designated by the State commission, so long as each additional requesting carrier meets the requirements of paragraph (1). Before designating an additional eligible telecommunications carrier for an area served by a rural telephone company, the State commission shall find that the designation is in the public interest.

Additionally, the supported services that must be provided as a requirement for ETC designation are contained in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101, which provides as follows:

- (a) Services designated for support. The following services or functionalities shall be supported by federal universal service support mechanisms:
- (1) Voice grade access to the public switched network. "Voice grade access" is defined as a functionality that enables a user of telecommunications services to transmit voice communications.

³ South Central Bell Tel. Co. v. Louisiana Public Service Commission, 352 So.2d 999, (La. 1977.)

including ~~signaling~~ the network that the caller wishes to place a call, and to receive voice communications, including receiving a signal indicating there is an incoming call. For the purposes of this part, bandwidth for voice ~~grade~~ access should be, at a minimum, 300 to 3,000 Hertz;

- (2) Local usage. **"Local usage"** means an amount of minutes of use of exchange service, prescribed by the Commission, provided free of charge to end users;
- (3) **Dual** tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent. **"Dual tone** multi-frequency" (DTMF) is a method of signaling that facilitates the transportation of signaling through the network, ~~shortening~~ call set-up time;
- (4) Single-party service or its functional equivalent "Single-party service" is telecommunications ~~service~~ that ~~permits users~~ to have exclusive use of a wireline subscriber loop or access line for each call placed, or, in the case of wireless telecommunications carriers, which use spectrum shared among users to provide service, a dedicated message path for the length of a user's particular transmission;
- (5) Access to emergency services. "Access to emergency services" includes access to services, such as 911 and enhanced 911, provided by local governments or other public safety organizations. 911 is defined as a service that permits a telecommunications user, by dialing the three-digit code '911' to call emergency services through a Public Service Access Point (PSAP) operated by the local government. "Enhanced 911" is defined as 911 service that includes the ability to provide automatic numbering information (ANI), which enables the PSAP to call back if the call is disconnected, and automatic location information (ALI), which permits emergency service providers to identify the geographic location of the calling party. "Access to emergency services" includes access to 911 and enhanced 911 services to the extent the local government in an eligible ~~can~~ ~~ids~~ service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems;
- (6) Access to operator services. "Access to operator services" is defined as access to any automatic or live assistance to a consumer to arrange for billing or completion, or both, of a telephone call;
- (7) Access to interexchange service. "Access to interexchange service" is defined as the use of the loop, as well as that portion of the switch that is paid for by the end user, or the functional equivalent of these network elements in the case of a wireless carrier, necessary to access an interexchange ~~can~~ ~~ids~~ network;
- (8) ~~Access to directory assistance. "Access to directory assistance"~~ is defined as access to a service that includes, but is not limited to, making available to customers, upon request, information contained in directory listings; and
- (9) Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers. Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers is described in subpart E of this part.
- (b) Requirement to offer all designated services. An eligible telecommunications carrier must offer each of the services set

forth in paragraph (a) of this section in order to receive federal universal service support.

- (c) Additional time to complete network upgrades. A state commission may grant the petition of a telecommunications carrier that is otherwise eligible to receive universal service support under Sec. 54.201 requesting additional time to complete the network upgrades needed to provide single-party service, access to enhanced 911 service, or toll limitation. If such petition is granted, the otherwise eligible telecommunications carrier will be permitted to receive universal service support for the duration of the period designated by the state commission. State commissions should grant such a request only upon a finding that exceptional circumstances prevent an otherwise eligible telecommunications carrier from providing single-party service, access to enhanced 911 service, or toll limitation. The period should extend only as long as the relevant state commission finds that exceptional circumstances exist and should not extend beyond the time that the state commission deems necessary for that eligible telecommunications carrier to complete network upgrades. An otherwise eligible telecommunications carrier that is incapable of offering one or more of these three specific universal services must demonstrate to the state commission that exceptional circumstances exist with respect to each service for which the carrier desires a grant of additional time to complete network upgrades.

Consistent with the above sections, the Commission issued a General Order dated May 20, 2004, which establishes specific public interest criteria applicable for applications seeking ETC designation in areas served by rural telecommunications carriers.

Staff's Recommendation and Commission's Consideration

The Commission is authorized under Sections 214(e) and 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 to designate Sprint Nextel as an ETC. Based upon the record evidence, and in particular the history of compliance with the Commission's ETC regulations from both Sprint and Nextel Partners, Staff opined that Sprint Nextel continues to meet all of the criteria for ETC designation contained in Section 214(e)(1) of the Telecom Act, as it (1) is a common carrier, (2) currently provides each of the supported services required of an ETC under 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101(a), and will offer all of those services to its universal service customers once designated an ETC, (3) advertises the availability of the supported services and charges using media of general distribution, (4) offers the required services using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and another carrier's services, and (5) identified the service areas through which it will offer and advertise the supported services, as well as the public interest criteria adopted by the Commission in the General Order dated May 20, 2004.

Staff further noted that granting Sprint Nextel's application to consolidate the existing designations would streamline the annual certification process with the FCC and USAC. Finally, granting the application to expand the non-rural designation of Sprint will provide a benefit to low-income customers, as Sprint Nextel's Lifeline offerings will be expanded to the entirety of the wire centers for which the initial non-rural designation was granted. For these reasons, Staff recommended Sprint Nextel's application should be granted. Sprint Nextel's request was considered by the Commission at its March 21, 2007 Business and Executive Session. On motion of Commissioner Sittig, seconded by Commissioner Boissiere, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Staff Recommendation and grant Sprint Nextel Corporation's application to amend and consolidate its designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT

1. The Commission's Prior designations as ETCs of Sprint in Order U-27509 and Nextel Partners in Order U-27289 are hereby consolidated under the name Sprint Nextel.
2. Sprint Nextel's request to expand the existing ETC designation as set forth in its application is hereby granted.
3. This Order shall be effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

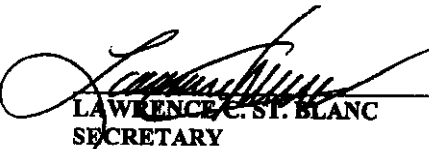
March 29, 2007

/S/ JACK "JAY" A. BLOSSMAN
DISTRICT I
CHAIRMAN JACK "JAY" A. BLOSSMAN

/S/ LAMBERT C. BOISSIERE, III
DISTRICT III
VICE CHAIRMAN LAMBERT C. BOISSIERE, III

DISTRICT IV
COMMISSIONER C. DALE SITTIG

/S/ JAMES M. FIELD
DISTRICT II
COMMISSIONER JAMES M. FIELD


LAWRENCE C. ST. BLANC
SECRETARY

/S/ FOSTER L. CAMPBELL
DISTRICT V
COMMISSIONER FOSTER L. CAMPBELL



Mutual Telephone Company
PO Box 338 • 345 Main St
Little River, KS 67457
1-877-216-9951



Interstate Common Line Support (ICLS)
2007 - 2008

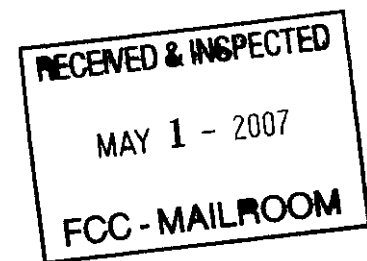
Date April 26, 2007

To: Marlene H. Dortch
Office of Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Karen Majcher
Vice President - High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45
Interstate Common Line Support - ICLS
Annual Certification Filing

ICLS



This is to certify that Mutual Telephone Company
will use its INTERSTATE COMMON LINE SUPPORT - ICLS only for the provision, maintenance
and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended

I am authorized to make this certification on behalf of the company named above. This certification is for the
study area(s) listed below. (Please enter your Company Name, State and Study Area Code)

ICLS		
Company Name	State	Study Area Code
Mutual Telephone Company	Kansas	411809
(If necessary, attach a separate list of additional study areas and check this box.) <input type="checkbox"/>		

Signed,

Sheldon R. Smith
[Signature of Authorized Representative]

Sheldon R. Smith
[Printed Name of Authorized Representative]

General Manager
[Title of Authorized Representative]

Date: April 26, 2007

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

Carrier's Name: Mutual Telephone Company
Carrier's Address: PO Box 338, Little River, Ks. 67451
Carrier's Telephone Number: 620-897-6200

Date Received
(For official use only)

USAC